

Message Text

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LIMDIS

E O 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, RP, MARR

SUBJ: BASE NEGOTIATIONS

REF: MANILA 7171 (NOTAL)

1. AS FORESHADOWED REFTTEL, I FOLLOWED UP EVENING MAY 26 WITH ALEX MELCHOR ON QUESTION OF "STUDIES" RE U.S. BASES WHICH HE AND MARCOS HAVE REQUESTED. I SAID IT WAS CLEAR THAT MARCOS DID NOT RPT NOT WANT A JOINT U.S.-RP STUDY, BUT SEPARATE STUDIES UNDERTAKEN INDEPENDENTLY.

2. MELCHOR AGREED, AND SAID, IN HIS JUDGEMENT, U.S. STUDY WOULD BE MORE COGENT THAN GOP STUDY, BECAUSE LATTER WOULD FOCUS ON USE OF BASES AFTER U.S. WITHDRAWS FROM THEM. U.S. STUDY, HE FELT, SHOULD FOCUS ON IMMEDIATE QUESTION OF U.S. USE OF BASES WITHIN FRAMEWORK OF "FILIPINIZATION" DISCUSSED BETWEEN MARCOS AND GAYLER.

3. I SAID BEST THING WE COULD PROBABLY DO WOULD BE TO FLESH OUT THOSE OPERATIONAL REQUIREMENTS FROM MILITARY

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POINT OF VIEW WHICH ADMIRAL GAYLER HAD CITED AS ESSENTIAL

TO EFFECTIVE CONTINUED U.S. USE OF THE FACILITIES. THIS STUDY COULD THEN FORM THE FRAMEWORK FOR DISCUSSION AND INITIATIVES FROM PHILIPPINE SIDE ABOUT ACTIONS THEY WOULD LIKE TO PROPOSE TO EFFECT "FILIPNIZATION."

4. MELCHOR SAID SUBJECT HAD BEEN DISCUSSED AMONG MARCOS AND HIS COLLEAGUES AFTER WE LEFT BREAKFAST MEETING MORNING MAY 26. HE SAID ENRILE HAD PROPOSED SIMPLE SOLUTION - PHILIPPINES SHOULD TAKE OVER BASES AS PHILIPPINE POSSESSIONS AND THEN RENT THEM TO THE U.S. MARCOS SAID IT WAS MORE COMPLICATED THAN THAT, BUT MELCHOR DID NOT SPECIFY IN WHAT WAY.

5. COMMENT: I SHALL DISCUSS QUESTION OF "STUDIES" WITH CINCPAC STAFF AND COMPONENT COMMANDERS DURING MY TRANSIT OF HONOLULU. ADMIRAL GAYLER WILL DOUBTLESS HAVE ADDITIONAL VIEWS TO CONTRIBUTE ON HIS RETURN TO HOME BASE.
SULLIVAN

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